

Course unit title:	Business Finance I		
Course unit code:	AFIN101		
Type of course unit:	Compulsory		
Level of course unit:	Bachelor (1 st Cycle)		
Year of study:	1		
Semester when the unit is delivered:	1 (Fall)		
Number of ECTS credits allocated :	6		
Name of lecturer(s):	Dr. Nicos Koussis		
Learning outcomes of the course unit:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand the issues analysed in the finance field, the role of the financial markets, the organization of firms and the role of the financial manager. 2. Discuss differences in raising short-term finance versus long-term finance 3. Understand the concept of the opportunity cost and appraise projects using Net Present Value approach taking into the cost of equity and cost of debt and overall cost of capital. Decide between mutually exclusive alternatives. 4. Apply the present value approach to alternative business finance problems including the valuation of shares, bank loans and bond valuation. Consider convertible bond features. 5. Understand the differences between alternative methods for project appraisal (Internal Rate of Return and Payback) and be in a position to discuss their disadvantages compared to the Net Present Value approach 6. Solve problems with current period budget constraints and formulate problems with multi-period budget constraints as linear programs 		
Mode of delivery:	Face-to-face		
Prerequisites:	None	Co-requisites:	None
Recommended optional program components:	None		
Course contents:	<p>Finance, the role of the financial markets and the financial Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the issues analysed in the finance field • Explain the differences between financial management and financial accounting. • Understand the different forms of business organizations and their advantages-disadvantages • Discuss the role of the financial markets including the stock, bond market and banks • Discuss differences in raising short-term finance (e.g., overdraft, trade credit) versus long-term finance (e.g., equity, bonds, leasing) and the role of the money market. Discuss and explain matching principle. • Separate the main functions performed by the financial manager including the financing decision, the investment decision and the dividend decision and their interrelations • Identify the difference between real and financial assets and tangible and intangible real assets • List the roles of the financial manager and identify the persons within an organization performing these roles (between the Chief Financial Officer, controller and Treasurer). • Understand the meaning of corporate governance mechanisms and their role in the performance of firms and investor protection 		

- Understand the issue of agency problems and identify different types of agency problems existing between claim holders of the firm
- Be able to propose solutions to mitigate agency problems with managerial reward schemes such as share options and performance-linked pay
- Discuss alternative financial objectives and the relation between corporate objectives and corporate strategy

The cost of capital:

- Understand the concept of the time value of money and the compounding of interest
- Calculate future values
- Understand discounting and the present value
- Understand the concept of the opportunity cost of capital
- Cost of equity, cost of debt and overall cost of capital
- Identify how to obtain sound opportunity costs connected to project risk
- Calculate simple rates of return of one-period problems and use rate of return rule to make an investment decision
- Calculate rates of return of one-period problems with probability scenarios
- Use return approach to calculate a reasonable opportunity cost of capital based on alternative investments with the same risk
- Understand the role of financial markets in allocating current and future consumption and the connection with Net Present Value decisions

Present value, the effect inflation and applications for shares, bank loans and bonds:

- An introduction to cash flows for investment appraisal-basic inflation adjusted projections and horizon value
- Apply the general Net Present Value approach for project and investment appraisal
- Calculate future values for multi-period problems
- Compare and contrast simple and compound interest calculations
- Calculate future values with simple and compound interest accumulation
- Apply probability analysis to investment projects
- Apply present value short-cuts for special cases of present value calculations
- Apply a combination of present value short-cuts within a single project (when multiple special cases exist within the same project)
- Apply the present value analysis in the presence of inflation: real and nominal rates of interest
- Apply the present value approach for calculating the present value of a bank loan based on future instalments
- Understand the concept of effective interest and its connection with the compounding of interest
- Solve problems obtaining the instalments necessary to match the present value of the loan
- Apply the present value analysis to value straight and convertible bonds (market value, floor price and conversion premium)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An introduction to the valuation of shares using the dividend discount model <p>Alternative methods for investment appraisal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply the payback method for investment appraisal Apply the book rate of return and the internal rate of return method for investment appraisal Understand the properties of a proper investment appraisal method (with reference to the Net Present Value) Identify the situations where the payback, discounted payback, the book rate of return and the internal rate of return method may be invalidated. Understand the problem of investment under budget constraints Identify and select projects to maximize the total Net Present Value subject to budget Constraints using Profitability Index and formulate problem with multi-period constraints
Recommended and/or required reading:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> R. Brealey, S. Myers and F. Allen, Principles of Corporate Finance, 12th Edition, 2017, McGraw-Hill. Lecture notes will be posted on e-learning system ACCA F9, Complete Text, Financial Management, Kaplan Publishing <p>References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Besley S. and Brigham, E. Essentials of Managerial Finance, 14th edition, South Western College Publishing, Brealey, R., Myers, S. and Alan Marcus, Fundamentals of Corporate Finance, 4th Edition, McGraw Hill, 2004 Copeland, T., F. Weston , A. Shastri Financial Theory and Corporate Policy, 4rd Edition, Addison-Wesley, 2004
Textbooks:	R. Brealey, S. Myers and F. Allen, Principles of Corporate Finance, 12th Edition, 2008, McGraw-Hill.
References:	
Planned learning activities and teaching methods:	The taught part course is delivered to the students by means of lecturers, conducted with the help of computer presentations and the use of the board. Lecture notes and other course material like spreadsheet examples are available to students through the web.
Assessment methods and criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignments 10% Test 30% Final Exam 60%
Language of instruction:	English
Work placement(s):	No